

THE UNIVERSITY *of York*

# Sciences **SPECIAL**

*Our Sciences Special gives a flavour of some of the jobs and further study that York science graduates go on to*

## RESEARCH JOBS FOR PSYCHOLOGY GRADUATES



**Catriona Morrison**

*Doctorate to be awarded in 1994*



**Tameron Carrick**

*Psychology 1992*

Are the words we learn first as children those which stay with us despite old age or brain injury? Research in the University's Psychology Department suggests that they are. Tameron Carrick and Catriona Morrison are working on a major project funded by the Medical Research Council to investigate the idea further.

Stroke victims, and others with speech problems following brain injury, frequently find it difficult to find the right word to describe an object. For many years psychologists believed that commonly-used words were those which stayed with us in these circumstances. Research at York under the direction of Professor Andrew Ellis suggests, however, that words learned early in life are more easily remembered.

Tameron and Catriona are now gathering 'age of acquisition' data for a large vocabulary from children aged from three upwards. They will then begin to test the speed at which normal people can name objects and compare that with the responses of stroke patients. In this and other ways, they will be able to work out the effects of learning a word at an early age on the speed and accuracy of word recognition and production in adults.

"These findings could be of considerable importance for theories of the way that words are stored and retrieved in the brain," says Professor Ellis.

## Staff award for sandwich student



**Gareth Cutts**

*Computer Science 1993*

Gareth Cutts won an Individual Contribution Award from GPT when he worked there for his sandwich year. It was the first time GPT had given such an award to someone who was not a permanent member of staff.

Gareth won the award for his information system which links particular products and services provided by GPT to the staff who provide them.

"I was very pleased to get the award," said Gareth. "I worked hard on the project during my year with GPT and when I returned to York for my final year I got a message saying that I had been nominated."



# About York *Did you know that . . .*

York has been voted Number One Cycling City, and after Cambridge, York has the most cyclists per head of population in the country.

\* \* \*

York is home to two of the most famous chocolate factories in the world. Nestlé Rowntree, makers of Kit Kat, Aero and the Yorkie bar, and Terrys, makers of Terry's All Gold, employ thousands of people in the city. At the time of writing Kit Kat retains its lead as the world's best-selling chocolate bar.



York has hundreds of 'snickleways' or 'snickets' - small alleyways and passages - which run between its streets and buildings.

So famous are they, that a special book has been written to guide visitors through the medieval labyrinths.

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York is the birthplace of Guy Fawkes. He was baptised at the church of St Michael Le Belfrey, next to the Minster. His old school, St Peter's, never has a Guy at its bonfire parties.

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## In the limelight

**Mark Bolland** *Chemistry 1987*

Mark Bolland has been having a busy time as Director of the Press Complaints Commission, which he joined from the Advertising Standards Authority where he was Legislative Affairs Manager. Headlines featuring politicians and the royals have dominated the first two years of the Commission's existence.

"The vast majority of complaints handled by the Commission relate to more down-to-earth stories," says Mark.

## Engineering honour for Sarah



**Sarah Crick**

*Electronics 1991*

Sarah Crick, who graduated with a first class degree in 1991, has been elected a Whitworth Scholar.

The Whitworth engineering scholarships were founded by Sir Joseph Whitworth in 1868.

Up to ten awards are made each year to young engineers who are expected to be high achievers in their subsequent careers. Award holders must combine academic excellence and practical ability with the personal qualities needed to achieve success in industry.

Sarah now works for BT in Milton Keynes.

## Charity walk



**David Praill**

*Mathematics 1979*

Last autumn David Praill walked from Mount Hermon to Mount Sinai. He is General Manager at St Luke's Hospice in Harrow and his five week epic journey was to raise money for the Hospice and other charities.

"It was a fantastic experience and, apart from 12 blisters, all went extremely well," he says.

David has raised £27,000. More money is coming in from talks and his book about the journey is to be published by Harper-Collins this spring.

## FILM WORK



**Rosie Wilby**

*Electronics 1992*

Rosie Wilby has won an award from FTZ to study TV and film production for two years in London. After a six week induction course Rosie is on her first placement. The course is funded by a host of cinema and TV organisations, including Channel Four. "I'm even being paid to do what I love," she says. "It's great!"



## The man in charge of Yorkshire's pint

### Graham Simpson

*Biochemistry 1980*

"There's a heavy responsibility!" said the University's typesetter looking at the photograph of Graham Simpson, Head Brewer at Joshua Tetley and Son.

Tetley's Bitter, the Yorkshire nectar drunk by millions every day, is actually spat out by Graham during working hours at his daily tasting session in Tetley's Leeds headquarters. He freely admits, however, that Tetley's and other (nameless) Yorkshire bitters are his favourite tippie. Sighs of relief from enthusiasts who may be worried that the man charged with their pint is a secret lager drinker. (A University researcher who spends hours analysing the foam heads of different beers admitted recently to only drinking cider.)

Graham is only the twelfth head brewer at Joshua Tetley's since the company was founded in 1822. At 35, he is also one of the youngest.

He joined former Tetley parent company, Allied Breweries, at their Burton on Trent brewery in 1980 shortly after graduating from York with a BSc in Biochemistry. Over the next seven years he had a number of different management roles, culminating in one overseeing the devel-



Photograph by Hickes Photographers

opment of a new packaging plant at the Burton brewery.

In 1988 Graham moved to the Tetley Walker brewery in Warrington where, two years later, he became head brewer.

Now Head Brewer at the home of Tetley beer, Graham finds that the title belies the exact nature of his job. His biochemistry background undoubtedly helps him understand the process of producing beers, but his is essentially a general executive management job. He is involved in

overseeing the brewery's three-year plans, budgeting, capital investment, changes in working methods and so on. And he has just begun studying for a part-time company-sponsored MBA.

"The MBA is complementary to my current management role," he says. "I take part in tastings and turn up when people are concerned about something, but many of the people working under me are qualified brewers and don't often need me on the 'shop floor'."

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## About the University

The University accommodates over 70% of its student population - one of the highest rates in the country. All first year students are guaranteed a place in University accommodation. Many second and third year undergraduates and postgraduate students also live on campus.

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One of the venues of York's Film Theatre is the University's Central Hall. Films are shown there every week during term-time. York also has a 12-screen Warner Brothers cinema at Clifton Moor and an Odeon with three screens in the city centre.

\* \* \*

Of all the campus universities in Britain, York's is closest to its city centre.



York Campus Nursery looks after the children of students and staff, with reduced rates for student parents. At the moment they take children from two to five years of age. A Baby Unit is being

built this year to take children under two years of age.

\* \* \*

The University is 30 years old this year. In a short time it has become one of the most prestigious higher education institutions in Britain, with high research ratings and a reputation for excellence in its teaching.

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In a laboratory all day but want to know about global politics? Grappling with algebra, but interested in architecture? The University runs 'Open Courses' each term on a variety of different topics - recent ones include the city of York, women in history, cancer research, composers, molecular evolution. They are held in the early evening on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and are free and open to all.



## CHAMPION



### Heidi Cutter

**Biology and Genetics 1993**

As well as graduating in Biology and Genetics, Heidi Cutter won nine medals for athletics in 1993 - seven gold, one silver and one bronze.

The medals were for discus, javelin and shot at the National and International Games in Stoke Mandeville, and the Dublin Irish Wheelchair Games.

They were not her only triumphs. At the graduation ceremony in the University's Central Hall last July, Heidi walked across the stage to receive her degree. Her astonished parents who had not seen her walk for years, watched as the Chancellor, Dame Janet Baker, greeted her with a congratulatory kiss.

Heidi has stayed in York to take a Postgraduate Teaching Certificate.

## Support for disabled students

Norman Rea is the University's Adviser on Disability and is happy to talk to those thinking of studying at York who have a disability.

The campus is accessible to wheelchair users and we produce a special wheelchair route for getting about. Ground floor bedrooms are available and most departments are easily accessible.

The University also has a Dyslexia Support Centre which offers help and advice and the teaching of specific study skills.

## New in 94

*The following new courses in science subjects are being introduced in October 1994:*

**Electronic Engineering with Music Technology Systems H661**

**Physics with a year in Europe F308**

**Theoretical Physics with a year in Europe F322**

**Computational Physics with a year in Europe F371**

**Physics with Business Management F330**

**Physics with Astrophysics F3F5**

## After Physics

*If you ever wondered what a Physics degree at York could lead on to, the answer is "almost anything!" This is what some of them do . . .*

**Louise Holden** (graduated 1988) is a Tax Inspector in Camden Town. Her husband **Paul**, who also graduated in Physics from York, looks after their young son full-time.

**Robert Fickling** (1983) is a Transport Planner. He has also been a teacher of mathematics and computer studies.

**Dean Cooper** (1988) is an Energy Expert on secondment to Brussels, responsible for an energy programme in Central and Eastern Europe.

**Tim Fitzpatrick** (1991) is a Software Engineer in the Civil Service.

**Helen Bevis** (1987) is studying for an MBA at Cranfield Institute of Management, having worked for BT as an International Standards Consultant.

**Averil and George Macdonald** (1980) job-share the Head of Physics post at Kenilworth School and share the care for their young daughter.

**Spencer Collyer** (1987) is a self-employed Computer Consultant.

## LANGUAGES FOR ALL!

All first year students can register for free language tuition at the University under the Languages for all programme. The courses are fully integrated into the timetable and the successful completion of a course is recorded on students' degree certificates.

No matter what your degree subject, the ability to speak another language could be instrumental in future job and study prospects.

French, German, Spanish and Italian are the main languages on offer, but others are offered if there is sufficient demand. Students can take beginners, intermediate or advanced level courses.